

City of Falls Church
2006 Annual Report
and Services Guide

moving
FORWARD



presented by
The City of Falls Church
Office of Communications

The City of Falls Church at a Glance

Geographical Size

2.2 Square Miles

Population

10,700 Residents

Income

Median Family Income: \$97,225

Per Capita Income: \$41,052

Age Distribution

Median Age: 39.7

Age 65 and Above: Nearly 1 in 5 Householders

Households Containing Children: 34%

Education & Work

Householders With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher: 72.7%

Working Householders: 68.2%

Housing Mix

Owner-Occupied Units: 60.6%

2,342 Single-Family Detached (Median Assessment - \$649,300)

569 Townhouses (Average Assessment - \$641,600)

644 Condominiums (Average Assessment - \$347,700)

1,442 Apartments

Tax Rates 2006-2007

Real Estate \$1.01 per \$100 of assessed valuation

Personal Property \$4.71 per \$100 of assessed valuation

Vehicle Decals \$25 for most vehicles

Location

Falls Church City is part of the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Statistical Area. The City is located only six miles from the Nation's Capital and inside the Capital Beltway. The City's downtown is situated at the intersection of Virginia Route 7 and U.S. Route 29. Falls Church City is served by Interstate 66, the East Falls Church and West Falls Church Metro stations, and by several convenient bus routes.

History

The City dates back to the late 1600s as an early Colonial settlement shared with Native Americans. The community was established around The Falls Church (Episcopal) that was founded in 1734. Falls Church became a township in 1875 and an independent city in 1948, when parents successfully obtained its separation from Fairfax County in an effort to establish a highly acclaimed school system. The United States Department of Education has honored the City's schools for Excellence in Education.



The Historic City of Falls Church
Official Virginia 2007 Community

Sources: 2006 City of Falls Church Demographic Survey; Census 2000.

VISION STATEMENT OF THE FALLS CHURCH CITY COUNCIL

ADOPTED NOVEMBER 27, 2006

In 2025, Falls Church is a small city that respects its citizens and provides personal attention to meeting their needs. It is a wonderful place to live, work, and shop, offering diversity in housing, amenities, and services. Its historic charm reflects the stewardship of residents and their local government. It is built on a human scale, where visitors and residents alike can find everything they need while experiencing the fabric of life in a friendly, close-knit community. Falls Church is a shining example of a city that has been able to retain the benefits of small town life, while remaining financially sustainable, and a full participant in one of our nation's most dynamic metropolitan areas.

The people of Falls Church have built a community that expresses their belief in certain unifying principles:

SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT

Falls Church City offers a harmonious mix of residential, commercial, and retail venues due to the community's focus on smart design, walkability, and human scale. Innovative, clear, and enforceable standards are in place that reflect attention to historic preservation, environmental sensitivity, and long-term sustainability. City government works closely with local counterparts to share this vision and ensure that Falls Church retains its distinctiveness and competitiveness in the region. Falls Church's City Center is a focal point where residents and visitors gather to work and play, helping to sustain the City's special sense of community and place.

WORLD CLASS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Falls Church City public school system is at the heart of our identity as a community. Public schools are why the City was established and have always been central to its success. The people of Falls Church remain committed to providing all children with the tools and skills necessary to achieve personal and professional success in a fast-changing and highly competitive world economy. This requires a continuing focus on outstanding staff, up-to-date facilities, innovative leadership, and the efficient use of resources.

NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION AND COMMUNITY LIFE

Falls Church welcomes the participation of its citizens in creating an environment where everyone is a neighbor. City neighborhoods are attractive, pleasant, safe, and welcoming places to live. In Falls Church, people join together to shape their streets, sidewalks, and public spaces. New development is compatible with existing neighborhood aesthetics, density, and scale. City streets and thoroughfares are tree-lined, pedestrian friendly, and offer visitors and passers-by a true window into our community and its values.

DIVERSITY

Falls Church is a place where people of all means and backgrounds are welcomed and encouraged to participate in all aspects of community life. Racial, ethnic, economic, and other facets of human experience enrich the community by providing it with a diverse mix of outlooks and views on world, national and local issues and problems. In all respects, Falls Church is a vibrant and successful community because it welcomes and promotes diversity.

ENVIRONMENTAL HARMONY

The people of Falls Church believe protecting, guiding, and investing in their environment is one of their highest callings. The City's public and private development express this belief in tangible ways. Our commitment to parks, open space, and clean waterways has been a hallmark of local government for decades. Likewise, residential and commercial development has long emphasized construction in harmony with the City's manifest natural gifts. Environmentally friendly residential and commercial buildings throughout the City incorporate the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Rating System—the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high performance green buildings.

INNOVATION

The people of Falls Church are leaders and innovators in many areas of human endeavor. The City capitalizes on this resource by finding and nurturing emerging ideas and bringing them together with public and private capital. Falls Church is one of the leaders among area jurisdictions in evolving and nurturing forward-thinking businesses that combine capital investment with stewardship of our natural resources. The City has a variety of special enterprise zones serving the "green technology entrepreneur" as well as the basic needs of its residents.

WORLD CLASS GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC OUTREACH

City Staff provide first-class, professional service to an appreciative community. The City Council and City Manager actively reach out to the citizenry to assure that the whole community is engaged in decisions affecting the City's well-being and sustainability. In this pursuit, the Council and City Staff are guided by the core values of accountability, transparency, and responsiveness. Citizens receive accurate and timely information and have every opportunity to be heard and participate in the deliberative process. At the same time, the Council acknowledges its obligation to make the difficult and, at times, unpopular decisions that are necessary to sustain the City's viability and unique small-town quality of life.

A SPECIAL PLACE

Falls Church is a place where people enjoy doing everyday tasks, as well as experiencing diverse cultural, recreational, and civic opportunities. The Falls Church, Tinner Hill, Cherry Hill Farm, the State Theatre, and quaint 19th century homes are alive with historical meaning and testify to the City's rich heritage, which is both respected and enhanced by the 21st century redevelopment of City Center. The City is a magnet for artists, artisans and musicians, with many venues for performances and exhibits. Its dozens of fine restaurants and other eateries make it a destination of choice for residents and countless people from elsewhere in the metropolitan area. The City's vibrant, pedestrian friendly commercial corridor and City Center includes attractive shops and boutiques, as well as retail stores that respond to every shopper's interests and pocketbook. There is always something going on in Falls Church, whether it be the Saturday Farmer's Market, famous Memorial Day Parade, concerts in the park, and much more.

Leading the City Forward



Seated Left to Right: Council Members Daniel Sze, Daniel Maller, and Harold Lippman. Standing Left to Right: Council Member David Chavern, Vice Mayor Lindy Hockenberry, Mayor Robin Gardner, and Council Member David Snyder.

The City of Falls Church operates under the Council-Manager form of government as provided by the City Charter and adopted by the Virginia General Assembly in 1950. Political authority is vested in the seven-member City Council, which enacts ordinances and resolutions, approves City budgets, sets the tax rates, and establishes policy. In formulating decisions and policy, the Council Members act as a group.

The Council Members are elected at-large for four-year terms, with alternating elections in May of even-numbered years for three or four members. The Council members elect the Mayor and Vice Mayor for two-year terms. The Mayor is paid \$300 per month and City Council Members are paid \$200 per month. Most Members hold full-time jobs in addition to serving as the City's Governing Body. They regularly attend City Council Meetings and Work Sessions; serve on regional boards, including the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; participate in civic events; and assist citizens.

The City Manager is appointed by City Council and is responsible for administrative and operations activities of the City and for preparing the City's budget. City employees, general managers, and division directors report to the City Manager.

The City Attorney is appointed by City Council to serve as the legal advisor to the City Council, School Board, City Manager, City departments, and City boards and commissions. The City Attorney drafts legislation and reviews proposed ordinances and contracts under consideration. The City Attorney cannot advise residents on private matters.

The City Clerk is appointed by City Council to serve as the administrator for the City Council and keep records of the City. The Clerk attends all City Council meetings; prepares Council minutes, agendas, packages, and public notices; submits legal notices for publication; prepares, finalizes, and distributes legislation; tracks board and commission vacancies and appointments; administers the oath of office to police, board and commission members, and Council members; and annually facilitates updates of the City Code. The Clerk also prepares proclamations and certificates of appreciation, correspondence, and keeps a calendar for the Council. The Clerk works closely with City staff and regularly provides information to the public on Council activities.

City Council Members can be contacted via telephone, e-mail, or through the City Clerk.

Mayor
Robin S. Gardner
1305 Ellison Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
(h) 534-8644

rgm101693@aol.com

Current Term: 7/1/04-6/30/08

First Elected: 7/1/00

Elected Mayor: 7/1/06

Vice Mayor
M.R. Lindy Hockenberry
1208 Seaton Lane
Falls Church, VA 22046
(h) 241-0934

lindyfallsch@aol.com

Current Term: 7/1/04-6/30/08

First Elected: 7/1/00

Elected Vice Mayor: 7/1/06

David C. Chavern
Council Member
410 East Jefferson Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
(h) 538-2398

dchavern@aol.com

Current Term: 7/1/04-6/30/08

First Elected: 7/1/04

Harold (Hal) Lippman, Ph.D.
Council Member
505 East Columbia Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
(h) 237-9089

hblipp3@verizon.net

Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10

First Elected: 7/1/06

Daniel K. Maller
Council Member
308 Walnut Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
(h) 237-0106

dan@maller.com

Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10

First Elected: 7/1/06

David F. Snyder
Council Member
116 Great Falls Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
(h) 241-0419

cityclerk@fallschurchva.gov

Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10

First Elected: 7/1/94

Daniel X. Sze
Council Member
313 Pennsylvania Avenue
Falls Church, VA 22046
(h) 538-5986

dansze2006@verizon.net

Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10

First Elected: 7/1/06

City Clerk
(for mail to City Council)
Kathleen C. Buschow
300 Park Avenue
Falls Church, VA 22046
(ph) 248-5014
(fax) 248-5146

cityclerk@fallschurchva.gov

School Board



Front Left to Right: Board Member Ron Peppe, Superintendent Lois Berlin, Board Member Joan Wodiska, and Board Member Rosaura Aguerrebere. Back Left to Right: Board Member Kieran Sharpe, Vice Chairman Kathryn Chandler, Chairman Craig Cheney, and Board Member Susan Kearney.

The Falls Church City School Board is comprised of seven members who are elected at-large for four-year, staggered terms in May of even-numbered years for three or four members. The School Board members elect the Chairman and Vice Chairman during their annual organizational meeting in July. The Board's primary responsibilities are to set policy for the school division, approve the school budget, develop a strategic plan for the school division, and hire a superintendent.

The Superintendent is appointed by the School Board and is responsible for managing the school division in accordance with Board policy and state law, hiring division and school-based leaders, and preparing the annual budget. Assistant superintendents, division directors, and building principals report directly to the Superintendent.

The School Board Clerk and Deputy Clerk are appointed by the School Board to manage and archive all School Board meeting records including meeting agendas, supporting materials, and meeting minutes.

School Board Members can be contacted via telephone, e-mail, or through the Superintendent.

Craig Cheney
Chairman
(h) 237-6931

cheneylewis@verizon.net
Current Term: 7/1/04-6/30/08
First Elected: 7/1/04
Elected Chairman: 7/1/06

Kathryn Chandler
Vice Chairman
(h) 536-7564

chandlerka@aol.com
Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10
First Elected: 7/1/02
Elected Vice Chairman: 7/1/06

Rosaura Aguerrebere
Board Member
(h) 536-8683
ag485@aol.com
Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10
First Elected: 7/1/06

Susan Kearney
Board Member
(h) 532-0321
spkearney@gmail.com
Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10
First Elected: 7/1/06

Ronald Peppe II
Board Member
(h) 534-4951
ron@ronpeppe.com
Current Term: 7/1/06-6/30/10
First Elected: 7/1/06

Kieran Sharpe
Board Member
(h) 536-3130
kjsharpe@starpower.net
Current Term: 7/1/04-6/30/08
First Elected: 7/1/98

Joan Wodiska
Board Member
(h) 533-1248
wodiska2004@yahoo.com
Current Term: 7/1/04-6/30/08
First Elected: 7/1/04

Superintendent
Lois Berlin
803 West Broad Street
Suite 300
Falls Church, VA 22046
(ph) 248-5601
lberlin@fccps.org

State Constitutional Officers (Elected by City of Falls Church Citizens)



Left to Right: Thomas D. Clinton, Commissioner of the Revenue; Cathy Kaye, Treasurer; S. Stephen Bittle, Sheriff.

Not Pictured: David A. Bell, Clerk of Circuit Court and Richard E. Trodden, Commonwealth Attorney.

Clerk of Circuit Court, David A. Bell
Commissioner of the Revenue, Thomas D. Clinton
Commonwealth Attorney, Richard E. Trodden
Sheriff, S. Stephen Bittle
Treasurer, Cathy Kaye

City of Falls Church Officials



Seated Left to Right: Richard D. Parker, Human Resources Division Director; Cindy L. Mester, Acting Assistant City Manager and Department of Community Services General Manager; Richard Goff, Economic Development Director; and Kathleen Clarken Buschow, City Clerk. Standing Left to Right: Robert T. Murray, Retiring Police Chief; John Tuohy, Department of Administrative Services General Manager and Chief Financial Officer; Brenda J. Creel, Department of Environmental Services General Manager; Nicole Gobbo, Communications Director; and F. Wyatt Shields, Acting City Manager.

Not Pictured: Elizabeth Friel, Department of Development Services General Manager and Planning Division Director; and Roy B. Thorpe, Jr., City Attorney.

Appointed by City Council

Acting City Manager, F. Wyatt Shields

City Attorney, Roy B. Thorpe, Jr.

City Clerk, Kathleen Clarken Buschow, CMC

City Manager's Office

Acting Assistant City Manager, Cindy L. Mester

Communications Director, Nicole Gobbo

Economic Development Director, Richard Goff

Human Resources Director, Richard D. Parker

Department of Administrative Services

General Manager and Chief Financial Officer, John Tuohy

Real Estate Assessor, Mel Peterson

Utilities Customer Service Division Director, Mary Ann Burke

Department of Community Services

General Manager, Cindy L. Mester

Court Services Division Director, Earl J. Conklin

Housing and Human Services Division Director, Pamela D. Doran

Library Division Director, Mary W. McMahon

Recreation & Parks Division Director, Howard E. Herman

Department of Development Services

General Manager and Planning Division Director, Elizabeth Friel

Urban Forestry Division Director, Jill-Anne Spence

Zoning Division Director, John C. Boyle

Department of Environmental Services

General Manager, Brenda J. Creel

Engineering Division Director, Moe M. Wadda

Operations Division Director, Robert Goff

Public Utilities Division Director, Robert Etris

Department of Public Safety

Acting Chief/Director, Harry W. Reitze

Operations Division Captain, Daniel B. Ellis

Services Division Captain, Matthew B. Sergeant

Special Operations Division Captain, Harry W. Reitze

Clerk of the Court, Kathleen S. Hall

Registrar of Voters, Deborah A. Taylor

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lois Berlin

Volunteer Fire Chief, James W. Clarke, Jr.

In 2006, the City of Falls Church surpassed many of its goals set at the beginning of the year to ensure the highest quality of life for City residents and businesses. This *2006 Annual Report and Services Guide* highlights these achievements and outlines the extensive services provided to residents and businesses in this small-town community. We encourage you to join us in the many activities, programs, meetings, and events held throughout the year. It is our hope that you are now, or will become, an active part of the community as we look forward to another prosperous year.

Annual Report 2006

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Department of Administrative Services encompasses Financial Services, Information Technology Services, Purchasing, Real Estate Assessment, and Utility Customer Service.

Financial Services

The Financial Services Division consists of accounting, budgeting, payroll, and accounts payable. The Division is responsible for accurate accounting of the City's revenues and expenditures, timely processing of vendor invoices, payment of employee salaries and related benefits, internal financial audits, and compilation and presentation of the annual budget and Capital Improvements Program (CIP). The Division also coordinates the annual external audit of the City's financial statements.

In 2006, the Government Finance Officers' Association of the United States and Canada recognized the City with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the *Fiscal Year 2005 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report*. This is the third time the City has been awarded this certificate.

Purchasing

The Procurement Division attains goods, services, and construction in accordance with applicable codes and policies. The Division manages the bid process; develops manuals, checklists, and procedural documents for purchasing; provides purchasing training to staff; assists divisions with preparing specifications; inspects all deliveries, supplies, or contractual services for order conformance; and administers maintenance and service agreements. It also supplies services to the School Division for complex projects. The Division aggressively pursues the use of national, state and local contracts to acquire goods and services at the best available prices.

In 2006, the purchasing official worked with the Information Technology Division to begin procurement for comprehensive upgrades to the City's network infrastructure.

Real Estate Assessment

The Office of Real Estate Assessment determines the value of all City properties, as of January 1 each year, at 100 percent current market value as required by Virginia Code. The City Council determines the amount of real estate taxes needed to fund the annual budget, and the real estate assessments are used to distribute the taxes equitably among all taxpayers.

Notices of Reassessment are mailed during the first quarter of the year. Property owners may make inquiries or appeal their annual assessment to the Assessor at any time during the tax year if the assessment (a) does not reflect current market value, (b) is not uniform with similar properties, or (c) is based on inaccurate property details. Appeals for the current year only may be made to the Board of Equalization (BOE) until Friday, July 6, 2007. Taxpayers are encouraged to request formal reconsideration of their assessment by the City Assessor prior to filing an appeal with the BOE; however, appeals may be made directly to the BOE or the Circuit Court in Arlington County.

The Real Estate Assessor collects information from parcel subdivisions, building plans, and permits that owners obtain through City offices. Information is also obtained from deeds and wills filed properly with the Arlington County Clerk of the Court. The Assessor's Office maintains a computerized history of each parcel of City property, including ownership, legal description, deed book and page references, sales information, and house characteristics. This information is used to produce an assessment land book each year.

Information about assessments and the assessment process is available on the City's Web site at www.fallschurchva.gov. Parcel information can be accessed directly at <http://property.fallschurchva.gov>.

Utilities Customer Service Division/ Utilities Billing

The Utilities Customer Service Division oversees approximately 34,500 water and sewer accounts and provides quality service to approximately 120,000 persons. The Division is responsible for meter reading, billing, new meter installations, testing, maintenance, and repairs. Utilities Customer Service also handles the collection of water and sewer payments. The service area includes 33 square miles of water system, comprised of the City of Falls Church, Fairfax, McLean, the Town of Vienna, and a small section of Arlington.

Clerk of the Court

The Combined District Courts is a state agency that is part of the 17th Judicial District and includes a General District Court, as well as a Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. These courts are responsible for hearing cases involving small claims, civil claims, traffic and criminal matters, juvenile delinquency, and domestic disputes. The Office of the Clerk of the Court employs three full-time employees and one part-time employee with a combined depth of more than 76 years of court experience. The staff supports four General District Court judges and two Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court judges.

The Clerk of the Court initiated a Court Security Committee comprised of representatives from several agencies to coordinate projects designed to ensure the safety of court participants.

The Office continues to implement new procedures and simplify the court process, with a goal to reduce citizen time spent in court. The new procedures are continually examined and adapted to better assist residents and the legal communities serving the City of Falls Church.

Commissioner of the Revenue

The Commissioner of the Revenue (COR) is an independent Constitutional Officer who answers directly to the voters of the City of Falls Church. In March 2006, Commissioner of the Revenue Thomas Clinton opened the Falls Church City DMV Select Office in City Hall, combining the demand for DMV services with the friendly small-town service characteristic of Falls Church City. The DMV Select is a lighter version of the full-service DMV Customer Service Center (CSC).

Transactions processed through the DMV Select Office include: vehicle title work (original, substitute, replacement, and title information changes), registrations (originals, renewals, transfers, re-issues, and plate surrenders), special and personalized license plate orders, dealer title and registration transactions, and voter registration application and address change processing. For security reasons, full-service DMV Offices handle all driver license-related transactions.

The COR has also continued to refine changes made to the Falls Church City Code in 2004 to allow the "File by Exception" process of filing personal property returns. This process no longer requires residents to file a return if there are no status changes for the vehicle(s) they own, saving taxpayers time, filing penalties, and postage. The Falls Church City Code was also changed to allow residents to register their new vehicle with the Commissioner's Office within 60 days of acquiring it, versus the previous 30-day time limit. Citizen and business forms (including the vehicle registration form) are available at www.fallschurchva.gov.

Specialized calendars have been distributed to residents and businesses listing tax due dates, as well as contact information for the Commissioner, the City Treasurer, and the City Assessor.

The COR continues to offer the successful "Drive Up and Scrape Off" decal replacement program for anyone needing assistance in removing their old City decal and affixing their new one. This free service is offered year-round and no appointment is necessary.

Office policy ensures that you will almost always speak to a live person versus a voicemail system when you call the Commissioner's Office. Complimentary Notary Public services are available during regular office hours from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Communications

The Office of Communications is a division of the City Manager's Office tasked with delivering a unified message to the public that best communicates the City's goals and objectives.

The Office of Communications publishes *The Weekly FOCUS* every Thursday in the *Falls Church News-Press* and at www.fallschurchva.gov providing the latest news from City government and the schools along with information about events. The *eFOCUS* newsletter is published online and distributed via e-mail every other Thursday, highlighting programs and services. Additionally, the Office publishes the monthly *Cherry Hill Chronicle* employee newsletter; the quarterly *WaterWatch* newsletter; this *Annual Report, Services Guide, and Calendar*; the *Annual Water Report*; the *Annual Water Quality Report*; the *Annual Budget and Capital Improvements Program*; the *Comprehensive Plan*; and numerous small publications throughout the year.

Resources For News:

The Weekly FOCUS

eFOCUS

www.fallschurchva.gov

alert.fallschurchva.gov

1680AM Radio

In 2006, the Office of Communications continued to improve public accessibility to information through the redesign of the City's Web site and *eFOCUS* newsletter, both set to launch in early 2007. The newly designed site will exhibit improved navigation and accessibility, and more online services to include class registrations, online payments, and much more.

Committed to advocating personal preparedness for all types of manmade and natural disasters, the Office promoted public education campaigns on topics ranging from West Nile Virus to pandemic flu. Awareness measures included promoting the City's emergency broadcast station 1680 AM radio and the alert.fallschurchva.gov alert network for citizens to register to receive electronic alerts during an emergency. Communications staff participated in the City's Hurricane Katrina Relief Task Force, helping to promote fundraising efforts throughout the year, including the design of City of Falls Churchopoly—a board game developed to raise funds for Katrina relief.

The Office of Communications continues to partner with regional organizations such as the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority for the GEORGE bus system. Staff also works closely with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and the Northern Virginia Regional Commission on a number of issues that affect the Northern Virginia, District of Columbia, and Maryland region, including participation in the *Water Use It Wisely* campaign for water conservation.

This Office also provides public relations counsel; creates communications messages, strategies, and marketing tools; serves as media spokesperson for the City, managing media inquiries, City crises, and coverage of City issues and events; and operates as the City's Webmaster.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Department of Community Services is comprised of Court Services (which includes Aurora House), Housing and Human Services, the Mary Riley Styles Public Library, and Recreation & Parks.

Aurora House Girls' Group Home

Aurora House Girls' Group Home provides therapeutic residential counseling services for up to 12 teenage girls at a time. Girls entering Aurora House typically have significant problems related to school, social groups, and family issues that temporarily prevent them from living with their families. During fiscal year 2006, Aurora House Girls' Group Home served 23 girls and their families, with an average daily population of seven girls. The recidivism rate was 10 percent, meaning that only one of the previous year's 10 program graduates had additional court involvement.

Aurora House's extensive services include parents in weekly family counseling and a weekly parents' group at a participation rate of 97 percent in 2006. In addition, the residents participate in five peer groups and at least three therapeutic groups a week. Group topics focus on social and interpersonal skills development, such as conflict resolution, decision-making, family roles, communication skills, anger management, and problem solving. Peer support, guidance, and accountability are heavily emphasized within the group home environment. Girls earn weekly home passes as they progress through the program, giving them the opportunity to practice these skills as they transition to their homes.

Education is a high priority in the Aurora House program—in fiscal year 2006, Aurora House residents improved their GPA by an average of 1.24 points. Counselors maintain consistent contact with teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators from each of the public schools that residents attend. In addition to conducting daily attendance checks, Aurora House counselors attend parent/teacher conferences and educational planning meetings. Volunteers provide weekly tutorial services to the girls during the school term. Aurora House administers the Susan Olom College Scholarship Fund to assist previous residents in pursuing higher education and has a tradition of promoting academic advancement through a College Awareness Program that provides residents with tours of local universities and community colleges.

Also during fiscal year 2006, Aurora House continued its practice of encouraging girls to give back to their community through service projects. The summer program included volunteering at the Arlington Food Assistance Center, St. Joseph's Day Care Center, and the Sunrise Assisted Living Facility in Falls Church. Girls participated in the Adopt-a-Spot sponsored cleanups. A particular highlight of the summer program included Project Hope where residents learned the fundamentals of sailing and working as a team.

In November 2005, the Arlington Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court sponsored the first of several parent and teen conferences. Aurora House residents and parents not only attended the Girl Talk conference but also spoke about the most beneficial aspects of their experiences with the juvenile court and Aurora House.

Court Services Unit

In fiscal year 2006, the Court Services Unit (CSU) provided supervision to 86 juveniles and 28 adults involved in the City's Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court. Among the services provided to youths, the CSU supervised 26 youths placed on supervised probation, 10 youths found to be Children in Need of Services, one youth on parole from the Department of Juvenile Justice, and 13 youths placed on home detention by the Juvenile Court. Additionally, the CSU placed and supervised 47 youths in community service work in the greater Falls Church area. Probation Counselors completed 11 investigative reports for the court's use in sentencing.

The CSU met or exceeded all of the established outcome measures for fiscal year 2006. An average of 90.5 percent of youth under supervision of the CSU successfully met the goals of their probation and completed services. Only 13.8 percent of youth re-offended during the year after their completion of services. And, of the 146 times youths were placed in programs or referred for services, they successfully completed those services or placements 94.8 percent of the time. These services included substance abuse counseling, individual and family counseling, anger management classes, and life skills education. Of the adults supervised by the CSU, 22 percent re-offended during the year following their completion of CSU services. This exceeded the CSU's target for recidivism of 30 percent or less.

Court Services staff continued to support efforts to address the problems of youth gangs at the local and regional levels. These efforts are part of the CSU's membership in the City's Gang Prevention and Intervention Committee (GIPC.) GIPC is a multidisciplinary team of general government and school professionals. In fiscal year 2006, GIPC obtained grant funding for a school-based prevention program at George Mason High, called "Opportunities for Success." GIPC also developed a page on gang prevention on the City's Web site, spearheaded the adoption of standard operating procedures for graffiti removal from City property, and participated in efforts to conduct a region-wide survey of gang involvement.

Housing and Human Services

The Housing and Human Services Division (HHS) offers a range of comprehensive services to address the basic needs of City residents. Such services include counseling, case management, resource and referral, senior services, rental assistance, home purchase financial assistance, housing search assistance and landlord/tenant/fair housing complaint investigation. HHS also administers contractual agreements with Fairfax County for the provision of financial assistance and social services; mental health, mental retardation, and substance abuse services; and public health services. Additionally, HHS maintains an agreement with Arlington County to access federal funds that the City uses to support housing, economic, and community development activities.

In fiscal year 2006, HHS staff handled more than 1,700 calls regarding child-care, health care, employment, transportation, housing, and social services. Staff provided information and referrals, advocacy, case management, follow up, and home visits as necessary.

Katrina Relief

In September 2005, City Council appointed the yearlong Hurricane Katrina Relief Task Force to help recovery efforts along the Gulf Coast. Our small-town community drew together to support recovery efforts that primarily focused on Louisiana's Saint Bernard Parish School district.

The Task Force raised more than \$160,000 in aid and other donations with support from City Council, City schools, City staff, citizens, and local businesses. In addition to direct donations, fundraising activities included bake sales, hygiene product and school supply drives, classroom trailer donations, holiday gift card collections, Mardi Gras Restaurant Week, a Library book sale, TJ Elementary Spring Fling donations, participation in the national "Making Change for Katrina" campaign, and the design and sale of the City of Falls Churchopoly board game. The City Arborist participated in the Gulf Coast Tree Assessment project, the School Superintendent visited the ravaged areas to offer support, and numerous other volunteers found ways to assist in clean-up efforts, Habitat for Humanity building projects, and so much more.

Staff provided domestic violence services to 38 residents and early intervention to 33 individuals threatened with eviction. Five other City residents received emergency assistance with food, rent, and utility payments. Staff linked 60 residents without health insurance to affordable health and dental care through enrollment in the Community Health Care Program, the Family Access to Medical Insurance Security Plan, and the Northern Virginia Dental Clinic. In addition, the City's federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds were used to enable residents to develop their own businesses and provide job-training activities for parents participating in family literacy programs. Through cosponsorship with the Recreation & Parks Division, the Senior Center provided year-round ongoing recreational activities and bi-weekly trips, a congregate meal program, exercise programs, speakers, and special events. More than 54 elderly residents and persons with disabilities stretched their transportation budgets by using the Fare Wheels taxicab coupon program for trips to doctors, grocery stores, and other important errands.

Five households were selected to purchase their first home through the City's Affordable Dwelling Unit (ADU) program. The ADUs include four condominiums at The Byron and one resale of a three-bedroom townhouse at Whittier Park. In addition, the City successfully secured access to \$3.5 million of low-interest mortgage loans from the Virginia Housing Development Authority (VHDA). The VHDA loans are for first-time homebuyers with low and moderate incomes; six homebuyers utilized more than \$900,000 in those mortgage funds in 2006. The Division hosted four first-time homebuyer ADU seminars and two first-time homebuyer education classes.

The City's CDBG funds were also used to assist five households with low and moderate incomes with the purchase of their first home; to support transitional housing for single women; to provide legal services to households facing eviction; and to aid in the operation of the City's winter homeless shelter. Additionally, 18 income-eligible families received short-term rental subsidies and case management services. The City's Rent and Tax Relief programs provided assistance and made housing more affordable to seven renters and 53 homeowners.

HHS also participated in the Northern Virginia Regional Fair Housing Testing Program to ensure that all new residential development provides equal housing opportunities. In the spring of 2006, the City sponsored a fair housing conference for government staff, property managers, residential developers, and the community to raise awareness of fair housing guidelines.

Mary Riley Styles Public Library

The Library and its patrons continued to place a high priority on technology in 2006. The Library began offering downloadable electronic audio books that feature both adult fiction and non-fiction materials, as well as courses on learning to speak 52 different languages; 50 new titles are added each month. The materials are easy to download (at no charge), and can be done either at the Library or from home using an MP3 player. The Library also added two online databases: Heritage Quest, a collection of research materials for tracing family history and American culture, and Tumblebooks, an online collection of animated, talking picture books that teaches young children the joys of reading. The Library added software to the online catalog that provides pictures of book jackets of most books along with a brief summary of the item, first chapter excerpt, and a title profile. In addition, the Library began sending out pre-notification notices to patrons who provided the Library with their e-mail address. These notices alert patrons that materials are due very shortly—an early reminder system. The Library also began taking debit and credit card payments for fines/fees.

Local businesses sponsored a Library Lovers' Day, donating a portion of that day's sales to the Library Foundation. In turn, the Library Foundation gave money to the Library to purchase additional audio books.

The Library also conducted a successful Food for Fines campaign, collecting and donating 923 items to the Falls Church Community Service Council and the Columbia Baptist Church Community Ministries Program.

The Summer Reading Program registered almost 950 children this past year, and they enjoyed many special programs—puppets, a yo-yo demonstration, a science program, a play, arts and crafts, and much more. Children received a book of their choice at the end of the six-week program.

In March, the Library donated all \$2,016 raised from its ongoing book sale to help Katrina victims in St. Bernard Parish, La. An anonymous patron matched the donation, bringing the total to \$4,132. When matched by FEMA funds, this total grew to more than \$8,000 to help school libraries purchase books, magazines, computers, software, and supplies.

Highlights from the annual patron survey held in March include: 57 percent of City residents visit the Library at least once a week, 97.4 percent are satisfied with Library materials and services, 98.5 percent feel the Library staff is helpful, and 90.6 percent feel the Library has a welcoming atmosphere.

2006 Library Stats	
Circulation	341,626 (highest in Library history)
Library Visits	176,531
Library Web Site Visits	164,839
Library Cards	23,003 (89.5% of City residents have cards)
Reserves on Materials	7,002
Overdue Notices	5,191 (56% via email)
Reference Questions	50,898
Directional Questions	14,831
Volunteer Hours	3,300
Items Added to Collection	14,083
Gift Items Added to Collection	5,703
Items Deleted From Collection	10,475
Database Changes	23,323

Recreation & Parks

The Recreation & Parks Division is dedicated to enhancing quality of life and fostering a sense of community by providing superior recreation, educational, and cultural services. Recreation & Parks offers a year-round program of recreational and leisure activities for all age groups and interest levels. These programs include a wide variety of classes, athletic leagues, special events, and trips. Recreation & Parks Division headquarters are located in the Falls Church City Community Center, which is open 357 days a year and is home to the City's Teen Center and Senior Center. The Recreation & Parks Division is also responsible for maintaining 12 neighborhood parks and the Cherry Hill Farmhouse and Barn.

Recreation Usage:	
Class & Sports Registrations	6,200+
Room Reservations	3,500+
Tennis Court Reservations	1,200+

The City increased the amount of parkland by adding almost 5.2 acres of open space to the park inventory. The City purchased the property known as the Hamlett Tract, a heavily wooded site that is almost 3 acres in size, and an additional .42 acres at 215 South Lee Street. The properties will be combined with the Rees Tract to form the City's 12th park. In addition, the City acquired approximately 1.8 acres adjacent to West End Park that will be added to the park.

Staff completed master plans for Berman Park and the Hamlett/Rees Tract. Park Master Plan implementation started with the installation of a picnic shelter in Madison Park and the installation of new playground equipment in Crossman Park. Renovations were completed at Thomas Jefferson Elementary School, including reconstruction of the rectangular athletic field and two softball fields, installation of an irrigation system, and the replacement of one of the backstops. The tennis and basketball courts at Cavalier Trail Park, Cherry Street, and the Community Center were resurfaced. The basketball court in the Community Center was also resurfaced. An MOU with the City's School System was adopted that guides the Recreation & Parks Division's use of School facilities and the School's use of the Recreation & Parks Division's facilities.

A new synthetic turf surface was installed on the stadium field at George Mason High School. The new turf will allow the Recreation & Parks Division to have full use of the field in the evenings and on weekends, enabling the Division's athletic teams to use the field hundreds of times a year. Prior to the installation of the turf, the Recreation & Parks Division could not use the stadium field.



Activities at the Teen and Senior centers remained popular with attendance continuing to increase for trips and special events. The Division again expanded the Farmers' Market with increased diversity of produce and extended the market to be year-round. Other annual special events such as the Fall Festival, Farm Day, Memorial Day Parade, and the July 4th Fireworks Celebration drew large crowds and helped define the City.

DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

The Planning, Zoning, Geographical Information Service, and Urban Forestry-Arborist divisions make up the Department of Development Services. The Department provides development review services for site plans, special exceptions, subdivisions, rezoning, zoning appeals, and interpretations. Major recent projects have included the Pearson Square and Read Building site plans as well as the proposed Northgate Special Exception review and analysis. The Department also provides long-range planning and policy efforts by analyzing commercial, residential, and historical zoning revisions and holding special public information sessions. The Department has focused on residential code changes over the past year. The Department also supports City Center planning efforts, leading a comprehensive pedestrian and traffic study within the City Center area in 2006.

Staff continued to provide technical support to the Planning Commission, Architectural Advisory Board, Board of Zoning Appeals, Citizens Advisory Committee on Transportation, Historic Architectural Review Board, Tree Commission, Neighborhood Tree Program, and City Council. The Department also staffed the City Council-appointed Ad Hoc Task Force on Open Space and the Preservation Partners Task Force.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The City's Economic Development Office is a division of the City Manager's Office and assists in the retention, expansion, and attraction of business activity in the City of Falls Church. Staff works closely with the development community to encourage market-based projects that will result in balanced and sustainable commercial growth in the City. Staff support is provided to the City's Economic Development Authority (EDA) and its many functions.

The Byron was completed at 513 West Broad Street in 2006, featuring prime retail space, Class A office space on the second floor, and 90 luxury residential condos. Pearson Square, at 500 South Maple Avenue, features the largest office building (80,000 square feet) constructed in Falls Church since 1986. Serving as the new headquarters for its 200 employees, Tax Analysts, Inc. purchased the building in 2006 utilizing financing provided by the EDA. The non-profit organization will become one of the City's top 10 employers and taxpayers.

New Development in the City

In 2006, the City witnessed construction on four mixed-use projects representing about \$285 million in new investment – an unprecedented level of activity that will add 90,000 square feet of new retail and 133,000 square feet of new office space along the City's commercial corridors. At the same time, these projects will add more than 600 new units of housing stock in the City.

Still under construction and scheduled for delivery in 2007 is another building at Pearson Square, which will bring about 20,000 square feet of retail space and 230 housing units to a site that had been blighted and underutilized for years. Work on The Spectrum, at 444 West Broad Street, is well underway. This project will include approximately 62,000 square feet of prime retail and office space, along with 191 housing units.

In 2006, the Read Building, at 402 West Broad Street, was approved by the City and is quickly proceeding toward completion. It will contain two levels of commercial space, with a bank and a fitness club, while bringing 26 apartments that include nine teacher workforce units targeted to City of Falls Church public school teachers at below-market rental rates.

Developers identified by the City early in 2006 as potential partners for the City Center project worked on the challenging task of land assembly at a time of change in the previously red-hot condominium market. The City's vision remains consistent with the original StreetWorks plan to create a "great place" with a town square; hotel; grocery store; new office space; a mix of national, regional and local retailers; an array of urban-style housing; ample and convenient parking; and a pedestrian-friendly environment.

The City continued to maintain some of the region's highest occupancy rates for commercial space in 2006. In order to best position and prepare the City to take advantage of opportunities to fill new commercial space coming on line over the next few years, the EDA completed a retail branding and marketing project using industry experts, Retail Compass of Washington, D.C.

A branding logo and slogan were produced for use in marketing materials for a focused retail recruitment campaign coordinated with developers and owners of commercial space. Staff also continued to make key improvements to the City's economic development Web site, www.developfallschurch.org, making information about available commercial space easily accessible.

Just as Falls Church is a special place for those who live in the City, businesses are made to feel welcome and are given special attention through the City's business retention visit effort, the annual Business Awards Program, and staff's daily response to business concerns such as customer parking, predatory towing, regulatory procedures, and other issues. The EDA has

demonstrated its commitment to the local business community by cosponsoring the popular, monthly FIRSTFriday event, the Greater Falls Church Chamber of Commerce's Business Expo, and a new restaurant directory in conjunction with the Taste of Falls Church.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

The Department of Environmental Services includes the Engineering and Construction, Operations, and Public Utilities divisions. The Department is also responsible for maintaining all municipal facilities.

Engineering and Construction

The Engineering and Construction Division maintains the City's critical infrastructure, provides technical support to City departments and Falls Church City Schools, regulates development activity through plan review and inspections, oversees the development of engineering studies and designs, provides solid waste and recycling program planning, and manages the City's capital improvements projects.

Citizen volunteers continued to play an important role in the success of recycling, litter prevention, and watershed education. More than 130 block captains distributed environmental program information to their neighbors, more than 150 volunteers participated in the spring and fall cleanups, and 30 community groups performed quarterly litter-pickups as participants in the City's Adopt-a-Spot program. Six new Neighborhood Water Stewardship Teams were formed, bringing the total to 16; and more than 100 people attended the 4th Annual Watershed-Friendly Garden Tour, which featured four homes and two City facilities.

Also in 2006, the Engineering and Construction Division converted to a new permit processing system and provided management oversight of plan review, inspection, enforcement services, and recycling and solid waste collection to ensure compliance with City, state, and federal regulations as well as the comprehensive plan. Staff successfully implemented state and federal regulations, such as erosion and sediment control regulations, the National Flood Insurance Program, and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) rule. Staff participated in the City's Interdisciplinary Transportation Team that meets monthly to review and make recommendations to the City Manager on transportation and traffic related issues affecting City residents. Staff also participated in meetings of the Chesapeake Bay Interdisciplinary Review Team to ensure that development projects satisfy the requirements of the Chesapeake Bay Act and state regulations.

The Division prepared specifications and procured a contractor to rehabilitate the three pedestrian bridges over Tripps Run, while protecting the stream below.

Staff procured design and construction services for the installation of a left turn signal at the intersection of Hillwood Avenue and Annandale Road to improve safety. They submitted documentation for the City's membership in the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System (CRS), which provides discounts on flood insurance premiums to residents of communities that have floodplain management programs that go beyond the minimum requirements. Staff prepared design specifications for drainage improvements to several properties located on Van Buren Street. They also updated the street pavement rating system and identified and prioritized road-repaving needs. Staff worked closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Baltimore office to complete the survey and hydraulic modeling of the City's storm water system. The results of the modeling will be used to determine future improvements to the system. Staff also represented the City before neighborhood forums and technical and inter-jurisdictional associations and meetings.

Operations

The Operations Division provides snow removal, refuse, brush, leaf, and special bulk collections. The Division maintains and cleans City streets and sidewalks and is responsible for traffic sign and City vehicle maintenance.

Operations provides overall operation and maintenance of the City's water distribution system, storm sewer system and sanitary sewer system consisting of approximately 488.92 miles of water mains, 46

miles of sewer pipe, 1000 manholes, approximately 9,760 water valves and about 3,132 fire hydrants. The water system is flushed annually to ensure that customers receive quality drinking water. The sanitary sewer system is cleaned on an ongoing basis to prevent backups and blockages.

Together with the Public Utilities Division, the Operations Division's goals are to deliver high quality drinking water and sanitary sewer services to its customers at competitive rates, to ensure a sufficient and uninterrupted water supply, and to upgrade the water and sewer system capacities to meet future demands.

In 2006, the Operations Division launched its Green Fleet efforts with the purchase of two hybrid vehicles and conversion to alternative fuels. Operations now uses biodiesel and a 10 percent ethanol and 90 percent unleaded gasoline blend. Operations completed a comprehensive cleanup of the storm sewer system removing tons of accumulated rocks and debris. Operations repaved portions of West Broad Street, South West Street, Little Falls Street, Lea Court, Spring Court, Broadmont Terrace, North Roosevelt Street, Irving Street, North Tuckahoe Street, Wren's Way, and Anne Street.

Recycling in the City

With a residential recycling rate of 59 percent, the City of Falls Church continued to have one of the highest recycling rates in the state and in the region in 2006. Those who participated in "green bin" recycling saved taxpayers more than \$100,000. In addition to items collected routinely at curbside and the Recycling Center, the City collected more than 50 tons of textiles, electronics, and bicycles during the semi-annual Recycling Extravaganza held at the Recycling Center.

Public Utilities

The Public Utilities Division is responsible for the overall operation and maintenance of 10 storage facilities and eight pumping stations. More than five billion gallons of safe drinking water are delivered to customers each year. In addition, more than 500 million gallons of wastewater are collected and sent to the wastewater treatment plants in Arlington and Alexandria annually.

In 2006, the Public Utilities Division continued to maintain and improve water and sewer system assets through a comprehensive and targeted capital program. The Tysons Corner Improvement Projects comprise an interconnection with the Fairfax County Water Authority system, the Dunn Loring underground booster pumping station, the construction of the Tysons Corner tank, and upgrades to the Scotts Run and George Mason pumping stations. Interconnection with the Fairfax County Water Authority, the new Tysons tank, and the Dunn Loring and George Mason pumping stations are complete and in service. The new Tysons tank has increased storage capacity from 1.6 million gallons to 2.2 million gallons and is 40 feet higher than the old tank, thus significantly increasing water pressure in the Tysons Corner area. The estimated total cost of the Tysons Capital Improvements is approximately \$10 million.

In 2006, the main focus of the Public Utilities Division was on the planning and design of major facilities and upgrades. Installation of the Scotts Run Pumping Station began. In addition, the water system's computer operating system replacement began in 2006, along with various secu-

rity enhancements. Construction was scheduled for improvements and installation of additional water mains to the Seven Corners area, and the design was completed on a replacement and upgrade of the Arlington Boulevard water main from a 12-inch to 24-inch diameter between Seven Corners and Graham Road.

Division staff also worked with jurisdictional partners on design and financing issues for projects that provide water or sewer treatment for the City. In 2005, the City began to participate financially in the Washington Aqueduct's solids disposal project, which will end the previous practice of disposing water treatment residual solids in the Potomac River. The City is also funding its share of upgrades to Arlington County wastewater treatment facilities that treat a portion of the City's wastewater.



HUMAN RESOURCES

A division of the City Manager's Office, the Human Resources Division implements internal services to more than 400 employees and retirees. Services include recruiting and screening for vacant positions; conducting new employee orientations; police officer selection testing for new police recruits; hiring programs for police dispatchers, police officers, and school crossing guards; and providing guidance to department and division supervisors on all personnel matters, including interviewing and hiring new employees, personnel actions, position analyses, and annual employee evaluations. The Human Resources Division provides leadership and career development through employee relations, career succession planning, tuition and employee assistance programs, training workshops, and retirement planning; offers compensation and benefits services to employees and retirees; and staff the Retirement Board, which is responsible for monitoring investments for the Basic pension and Police pension plans and recommending benefit changes.

HR also manages the City's risk management and safety programs, from which the City received dividends in excess of \$20,000 due to good loss experience in general liability, automobile, and workers' compensation insurance.

Continuing the City's Service Award program, 35 City employees were recognized for a combined total of 605 years of service; 25 employees received performance awards for outstanding service; and Debralee Wright, Teen Coordinator for the Recreation & Parks Division of the Department of Community Services was recognized as the 2005 City of Falls Church Employee of the Year.

The Division provided training, leadership development, coaching, and employee development opportunities to more than 260 employees. The Human Resources Division staff issued benefits statements to each employee itemizing their benefits and the costs paid for those benefits by the employee and the City. As in previous years, Human Resources provided employees the opportunity to receive flu shots at a reduced rate to promote good health and minimize employee absences due to illness.

The City continues to use a Pay-for-Performance Evaluation System to rate all employees in areas of behavioral and performance elements. Performance elements are objectives and standards

developed by the supervisor for each individual employee. Employees are evaluated on the performance measures established and on the actual results achieved. All City employees in supervisory positions are evaluated using an annual performance review for supervisors. Supervisors are evaluated in the same areas as employees and also on leadership and employee development. Each supervisor prepares development plans with employees to establish goals and performance expectations for the upcoming year.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire and Rescue

Fire and rescue services are provided through a cooperative effort between the City of Falls Church, the Volunteer Fire Department, and the Arlington County Fire Department. Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department members participate in loss prevention, fire suppression, emergency medical services, and ongoing training on a routine basis. The Arlington County Fire Department is contracted to provide 24-hour career staffing of the fire equipment and station that are provided by the City of Falls Church and the Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department.

During calendar year 2005, volunteers contributed more than 15,700 hours of service through emergency responses, stand-by events, administrative duties, and training. Volunteers assisted on more than 1,400 emergency incidents.

Police

Falls Church City continues to have a relatively low crime rate and one of the fastest response times in the Metro area for police assistance. In 2005, the Police Department handled 25,347 calls for service, an increase of 22 percent from 2004. Part I offenses (serious crimes) decreased by 14 percent in 2005. Adult criminal arrests and traffic arrests for Part I and Part II (all crimes not covered under Part I) offenses increased by 4 percent in 2005.



The Police Department is accredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission; in 2006 staff began preparing for re-accreditation in 2007.

Technological advances continued in 2006 with the purchase of digital cameras for investigators and additional computer equipment to process evidence. The Department also continued successful community outreach programs such as Rape Aggression Defense classes for women ages 12 and older, involvement in the Gang Intervention and Prevention Committee, a school resource officer, the Community Lifeline Program to check on senior residents, and the house checks program for vacationing residents, among other initiatives.

Sheriff

The Sheriff's Office continues to be active in traffic enforcement and the Smooth Operator Program. The motorcycle unit also provides funeral escorts and gives safety talks to various City groups. From January to September 2006, the Sheriff's Office wrote 1,122 summons and parking tickets.

Under the ROCS (Ride Our Children Safely) Program, the Sheriff's Office performs child safety seat inspections and installs/inspects approximately 200 car seats per year. Under the Ident-a-Child Program, the Sheriff's Office fingerprints approximately 200-300 children each year. The Office also provides fingerprinting, by appointment only, for City residents. The Office hosts Operation Safe Halloween each year, with deputies distributing Halloween treat bags.

The Sheriff's Office instituted a Community Service Program in which approximately 50 people have participated, completing more than 1,500 hours of service. Also in 2006, the Sheriff presented a Most-Improved Student Award to students at St. James School and Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Schools at a Glance

Total Enrollment: 1,873

Per-Pupil Expenditure: \$18,114

Graduates Seeking Post-Secondary Education: 95.4%

Average SAT Scores: 1709 (Nearly 200 points above national and state averages)

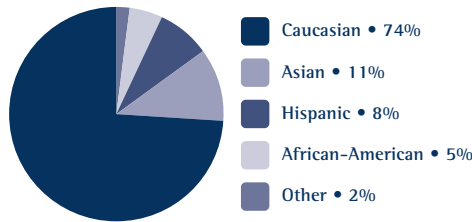
Mission and Values

Mission: The Falls Church City Public Schools, in partnership with our families and community, educates and challenges every student to succeed and become a responsible and contributing member of the global community.

We value our students and believe that

- all decisions of the Falls Church City Public Schools must be based on the needs of students;
- students learn best in a secure environment that includes a rigorous and challenging curriculum and a climate of high expectations and academic excellence;
- measurable and achievable student goals must guide teaching and learning; and
- schools that value diversity and promote lifelong learning and responsible citizenship provide students with the foundation for success in a global community.

Ethnic Distribution of Students



We value our staff and believe that

- a highly skilled, experienced, and dedicated staff is key to effective learning; and
- collegiality, collaboration, and teamwork are essential.

We value our independent public education system and believe that

- small classes and small schools are the foundation for academic excellence;
- data must be used for continuous improvement in teaching and learning; and
- the necessary resources must be provided to support student achievement.

We value our partnership with the community and believe that

- our schools must be responsive and accountable to the community; and
- community involvement strengthens our schools.

Falls Church City Public Schools enjoys a national reputation for excellence in serving nearly 2,000 students in grades K-12 and dozens of special needs pre-kindergarten students. Each

of the division's four schools has attained state and national recognition, and George Mason High School is consistently recognized by *The Washington Post* and *Newsweek* magazine as one of the top high schools in the nation.

Mount Daniel Elementary School provides kindergarten and first grade students a safe, warm, and encouraging learning environment. The school has been recognized on the state and international level for having an exemplary reading program. In September 2006, a new building wing opened, which included the addition of four new classrooms. The construction project also included campus improvements including additional school parking, a pedestrian pathway, and storm water management enhancements.

Thomas Jefferson Elementary School offers a progressive and challenging curriculum for students in grades 2 through 4. In 2005, the school was recognized by the Virginia Department of Education as a Title I Distinguished School. The school received the award for raising the achievement of economically disadvantaged students and for meeting or exceeding the objectives of the federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001. In response to a 2004 Elementary PTA Neighborhood Safety Survey, new stop signs and crosswalks have been added to the neighborhood surrounding Thomas Jefferson Elementary to help ensure pedestrian safety.

Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School opened its doors in September 2005 and replaced George Mason Middle School, which had been located in the division's high school building. The middle school serves a student population in grades 5 through 7 and continues to offer the same challenging educational programs that earned George Mason Middle School the distinction of being named a Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

George Mason High School consistently ranks among the top schools in the nation. It was the first Virginia school to offer the challenging International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum, which provides students with the possibility of earning college credit while still in high school. For years, *The Washington Post* has rated George Mason High School as one of the most challenging schools in the metro D.C. area. *Newsweek* magazine (May 23, 2006) rates George Mason High School among the top 50 high schools in the nation, and George Mason students consistently score well above state and national averages on standardized tests. The school serves students in grades 8 through 12.

The City's Schools:

Mount Daniel Elementary

Grades K-1

Thomas Jefferson Elementary

Grades 2-4

Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School

Grades 5-7

George Mason High School

Grades 8-12

REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

The Voter Registration Office and Electoral Board together conduct all elections held in the City and are responsible for all election-related activities.

Three elections were held in the City of Falls Church in 2006. A City election was held in May, in which four candidates were on the ballot for four available City Council Seats, and six candidates ran for four School Board seats. In June, there was Dual Primary election. Republicans chose a candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives, 8th District, while Democrats chose a candidate to run for U.S. Senate. The November election was for U.S. Senate, U.S. House (8th district), local vacancy for Treasurer to fill an unexpired term ending December 31, 2009, and three State Constitution amendment questions.

Services Guide 2007

All offices are located in City Hall, 300 Park Avenue, and all telephone numbers use the 703 area code, unless otherwise noted. The Virginia Relay System for those who use text telephone or telebraille is TTY 711.

AURORA HOUSE GIRLS' GROUP HOME

Aurora House is a community-based, group home that serves adolescent females 13 to 17 years of age who reside in the City of Falls Church, Arlington County, or the City of Alexandria. Clients are under the formal supervision of the Juvenile Court and demonstrate significant problems that prevent them from living with parent(s) or family members. Most frequently, this includes truancy from school and running away from home for extended periods. These behaviors result in the girls' adjudication as a "Child in Need of Services" or a delinquent, and placement in the program. However, the girls present many other underlying characteristics including highly troubled histories of child abuse, promiscuity, low self-esteem, depression, chronic conflict with authority figures, and generally problematic relationships with family members and peers. A significant number of girls placed at Aurora House also have histories of association with gang members. Aurora House has a capacity for 12 residents at a time and girls typically participate in the program for one year. Individuals or organizations interested in supporting Aurora House through financial contributions or volunteer assistance are encouraged to contact the program directly.

Aurora House (420 South Maple Avenue)237-6622

BRUSH COLLECTION

Bundled brush is collected every Monday, excluding holidays from January 8 to October 15, 2007. Leaf collection occurs during the break. Brush includes tree branches, large twigs, shrubs, and bamboo. Branches should be cut to lengths not exceeding five feet. Branch or trunk diameter must not exceed six inches. No single bundle may weigh more than 50 pounds or be too bulky to be loaded safely by one person into the collection vehicle. The bundles should not fall apart when lifted. There is no charge for brush collection if it is properly prepared in this manner or as yard waste (see Yard Waste Collection). Unbundled brush requires a special collection at a minimum charge of \$65. The City will not collect debris left by contractors (see Special Collections).

DES-Operations Division, Street Maintenance248-5316

Recycling248-5176

Special Collection Scheduling Line534-6509

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits are required to erect, enlarge, alter, remove, demolish, or repair a structure and can be obtained from the Engineering Division, Department of Environmental Services. If you are unsure if work requires a permit, call the Engineering Division.

Engineering and Construction Division248-5080

BULK REFUSE COLLECTION

(See Special Collections.)

BUSINESS LICENSES

New commercial and professional enterprises should contact the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue for business license requirements prior to opening a business in the City, even if it is a home-based business. The purchase of an existing business requires the new business owner to obtain a business license. Business licenses are not transferable. All businesses must have a business license within 30 days of opening. Business license applications are available at www.fallschurchva.gov.

If you have registered a business-trading name with the Clerk of the Court in Arlington County, or if the Virginia State Corporation Commission has incorporated your business, you must provide a copy of the coversheet listing your incorporated name in order to put that business name on your City of Falls Church business license. Business licenses are issued on a calendar-year basis and expire December 31. Existing businesses are given a two-month grace period (January and February) to close their books for the year and are required to annually renew their licenses no later than March 1 to avoid a late payment penalty and interest.

Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue248-5018

CABLE TV: FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY TELEVISION

Falls Church Community Television is the City's public, educational, and government (PEG) cable access television station. FCC-TV is seen on Cox Cable Channel 12 and RCN Channel 2. Programming includes live coverage of City Council, School Board, and Planning Commission meetings; videotaped government and school specials; and public access programs produced by trained volunteer producers. Between programming, the FCC-TV bulletin board provides public service information from the City government, schools, and local nonprofit organizations. It also posts emergency announcements from the City government and schools. Video production workshops are available to community members interested in producing their own public access programs.

FCC-TV (7124 Leesburg Pike)248-5538
.www.fcctv.net

Citizen concerns about cable television rates or service should be directed to the appropriate cable television provider or the Communications Policy & Regulation Division in Fairfax County.

Cox Communications378-3905

RCN Cable877-782-7769

Communications Policy & Regulation
(12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax)324-5902

CHERRY HILL FARMHOUSE

Cherry Hill Farmhouse, with its adjoining barn and park, is a historic family farm c. 1845 managed by the Recreation & Parks Division. It is open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday and by appointment. Saturday hours are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. April through October.

Cherry Hill Farmhouse (312 Park Avenue)248-5171

CITY BOUNDARIES

Many Falls Church properties are outside the City, making it difficult to distinguish properties located within the City's 2.2 square-mile borders. The primary zip code for Falls Church City is 22046. See the map at the back of the 2007 Calendar to view the City's boundaries.

Real Estate Assessor's Office248-5022

COMMENTS, SUGGESTIONS, & REQUESTS

The City has established a Web-based, comments and suggestions page to facilitate communication between City staff and the residents and users of City services. The City encourages feedback and input from the public, and commits to responding in a timely manner to all inquiries. To submit a comment or request to the City, please visit www.fallschurchva.gov and complete the submission form provided. This submission form, upon completion, will be routed to the City office that can most appropriately address your issue. Once you have submitted a request, you will be able to peruse actions taken, review the status of your submission, and request additional information.

City Manager’s Office248-5004

COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE

The Commissioner of the Revenue (COR) is an independent Constitutional Officer who answers directly to the voters of the City of Falls Church. The Commissioner is elected every four years, with a term running concurrently with that of the Governor of Virginia. The Commissioner is responsible for assessing taxes on personal property (vehicles), business tangible personal property (business equipment), business licenses (BPOL), transient occupancy (hotel), utilities, bank franchise, meals, and short-term rentals. The Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue is partially funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia for the performance of state responsibilities such as processing income tax returns, estimated taxes, and tax-due payments for residents and businesses of the City of Falls Church. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue248-5018
.248-5212 (Fax)

COMMUNITY CENTER

Year-round recreational and leisure activities for all ages are planned and supervised by the Recreation & Parks Division, located at the Community Center. The Center is open from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to midnight Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to midnight Saturday. On Sunday, the Center is open from noon to 6 p.m. (January through March) and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. (April through December).

Community Center (223 Little Falls Street)248-5077

COMMUNITY SERVICE

There are several community service opportunities for City of Falls Church residents. The Community Center often needs chaperones for middle school dances, coaches for youth sports teams, and volunteers at other special events such as the Middle School New Year's Eve Party, the Fall Festival, and Memorial Day events. Volunteers are often needed at the Senior Center, and there are volunteer opportunities through the City's myriad of boards and commissions. The Police Department and Environmental Services Operations Division welcome residents who are ordered by the court to do community service.

Boards and Commissions248-5014

Community Center (223 Little Falls Street)248-5077

Housing and Human Services Division248-5005

DES-Operations Division248-5081

Police Department248-5054

COMPOSTING

Backyard composting and landscape alteration classes are offered seasonally at the City's Backyard Composting Demonstration Site at Cavalier Trail Park.

Environmental Programs Specialist248-5176

COURT OF LAWS

The City of Falls Church court system is part of the 17th Judicial District (Arlington County) and includes the General District Court and the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court.

The General District Court has two divisions: Civil Court, and Traffic and Criminal Court. Civil Court handles civil cases up to \$15,000 and meets in City Hall Council Chambers/Courtroom at 11 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. It also includes a Small Claims Court handling matters of \$5,000 or less and meets in City Hall at 9:30 a.m. on the second and fourth Wednesday. Traffic fines or prepayment of traffic tickets may be paid from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Clerk of the Court's Office in City Hall.

The Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court hears all cases of youth under 18 years of age who are charged with, or are the victims of, crimes or other violations of the law in Falls Church City. This Court also hears petitions for custody and support, as well as any charges made by one family member or household member against another. Court convenes in City Hall at 9:15 a.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month.

Arlington County Circuit Court
(1425 North Courthouse Road, Arlington)228-7010

Clerk of the Court, General District, Traffic and Criminal248-5096
(Recorded Prepayment Traffic Fine Information Line)248-5095

Clerk of the Court, Civil and Small Claims248-5098

Clerk of the Court, Juvenile and Domestic Relations248-5099
(Recorded Information)248-5095

Web Sitewww.courts.state.va.us
(to obtain case information, prepay fines, download forms, and more)

COURT SERVICES UNIT (INTAKE AND PROBATION)

The Court Services Unit (CSU) provides a variety of services for individuals who come before the Falls Church Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (JDR). The CSU provides intake services for law enforcement officers, school officials, parents, victims, or other individuals who desire to file a complaint against a juvenile for criminal or status offenses committed in the City of Falls Church. When ordered by the JDR Court, the CSU conducts pre-sentence or child custody investigations and submits written findings and recommendations to the Court. The CSU also provides supervision, counseling, and case management services to youth under the Court supervision as delinquent or status offenders. Adults involved with the Court for offenses against family members or juveniles are also supervised through the CSU.

A broad range of services are offered to CSU clients through outside agencies, including substance abuse treatment, anger management classes, individual and family counseling, and home-based counseling services. Clients also receive services from Court-sponsored programs

such as Probation and Parole Supervision, the Detention Diversion Program, the Post-Dispositional Detention Program, the Shoplifter's Program, Curfew Enforcement Services, the Girls' Outreach Program, the Argus House Boys' Group Home, the Aurora House Girls' Group Home, Northern Virginia Shelter Care, and the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Center.

Informal assistance for youth who have problems with truancy, running away, juvenile delinquency, substance abuse, gang-involvement, and other issues is also available through the CSU. City residents experiencing difficulties with domestic violence, seeking a protective order, or wishing to file a petition for custody of a child may also contact the CSU for assistance.

Court Services Unit (200 Little Falls Street, Suite 207)241-7630

DMV SELECT OFFICE

The DMV Select Office is a lighter version of the full-service DMV Customer Service Center. It is located in the Commissioner of the Revenue's Office in City Hall. DMV Select Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The DMV Select Office predominantly handles vehicle-related transactions including all vehicle titles (original, substitute, replacement, title maintenance—the change of information on a title); registrations (originals, renewals, transfers, re-issues, and license plate surrenders); special and personalized license plate orders; and dealer title and registration transactions. New voter registrations and voter change of address updates are available at the DMV Select Office. Citizens can also receive DMV trip permits, disabled parking placards and plates (both temporary and permanent), driver and vehicle records, and can pay returned checks.

For security reasons, new and replacement driver licenses, license renewals, and license testing must be processed at full-service DMV Customer Service Center (CSC) locations. The nearest CSC to Falls Church City is the Tysons Corner CSC located at 1968 Gallows Road in Vienna. Their operating hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon Saturday.

DMV Select Office248-5019

DOG LICENSES

Dog licenses expire on December 31 and must be obtained for dogs over six months old no later than January 31 or within 30 days of moving to Falls Church City. Applications must be accompanied by a valid rabies vaccination certificate, plus certification from a veterinarian if the dog has been spayed or neutered. The license fee is \$10; \$5 for spayed or neutered dogs. Licenses are issued by the Treasurer's Office.

Treasurer's Office248-5046

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE

The Economic Development Office assists businesses interested in opening in the City of Falls Church and supports the long-term success and growth of established businesses. Staff conducts retention visits with local companies to better understand their needs and concerns, serving as a liaison between local government and the business community. The Economic Development Office maintains databases and a Web site, www.developfallschurch.org, to provide accurate and current information about available commercial space, suitable sites for new development, and information about local demographics and market conditions.

Analysis of the costs/benefits to the City of proposed new development projects is conducted by staff and utilized by the Economic Development Authority in its recommendations to City

Council. Staff works closely with developers, real estate brokers, and property owners to bring forward projects that are a good fit for Falls Church City in terms of quality, balance, and the City's long-term economic health.

The Economic Development Office administers the City's Technology Zone business license tax abatement program and Industrial Revenue Bond financing. Staff conducts focused business recruitment efforts based on market research and studies, provides staff support to the EDA, and plays a key role in the emerging City Center project.

Economic Development Office248-5491

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

In the event of inclement weather or emergencies, the City announces government office closures and other pertinent information through its 1680 AM Emergency Broadcast Radio Station, the alert.fallschurchva.gov alert network, and a pre-recorded telephone information line. Information is also distributed through the City's Web site (www.fallschurchva.gov), local news media, and Falls Church Community Television channels 2 and 12. In addition to the outlets listed above, severe weather school closing information and other school-related emergency announcements are made online at www.fccps.org.

City Web Sitewww.fallschurchva.gov

Electronic Emergency Alerts (Register Online)alert.fallschurchva.gov

Emergency Information Line (Citizens)248-5200

Emergency Information Line (Employees)248-5198

**Emergency Information Line
& Special Announcements (Schools)248-5500, ext. 3113**

Emergency Radio Broadcast Station1680 AM

FCC-TVChannels 2 and 12

FIRE STATION AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT

The Falls Church Fire Station is staffed by Arlington career firefighters who are supplemented by members of the Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department. Fire Marshal services are also provided by the Arlington County Fire Department.

Arlington County Fire Department Administration228-3362

Car Seat Installation and Fire Safety Visits228-4659

Emergency (Fire and Rescue)911

Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department (6950 Little Falls Road)532-2672

Fire Marshal228-4644

Meeting Hall Rentals228-3600, Ext. 9110

Non-Emergency (Fire and Rescue)558-2222

**Web Siteswww.arlingtonva.us
.www.fallschurchvfd.org**

GRASS COLLECTION

(See Yard Waste Collection.)

HAZARDOUS USE PERMITS

Hazardous use permits are required for businesses—such as service stations, drug stores, paint stores, and grocery stores—that handle hazardous materials, flammable liquids, and chemicals. These permits can be obtained from the Department of Environmental Services Engineering and Construction Division.

Engineering and Construction Division248-5080

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTES

Household hazardous wastes such as cleaners, automotive fluids, herbicides, pesticides, oil-based paints, and thinners should not be disposed with regular trash. They must be taken to the Fairfax County Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility. It is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday, 8 a.m. to noon Friday, and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. Waste should not be left at the site if it is not open.

Hazardous Waste Disposal Facility (4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax)324-5068

HOUSING SERVICES (IN FALLS CHURCH CITY)

The following housing services are available through the City's Housing and Human Services Division:

- Housing counseling, including landlord/tenant assistance, and fair housing counseling
- Rental assistance and emergency rent assistance
- Homeownership assistance/first-time homebuyer grants and loans
- Real estate tax relief and rent relief for income-eligible seniors and individuals with disabilities
- Federal housing and community development programs (CDBG/HOME)
- Subsidized housing and information (Housing Choice Voucher) is provided by the Fairfax County Department of Housing and Community Development, 385-3662
- Subsidized housing for older adults and residents with disabilities is available through Winter Hill Apartments (a partnership with Falls Church Housing Corporation), 330B South Virginia Avenue, 237-0341
- Investigation of housing code violations, infestations of rodents or insects, or problems with other conditions in residential buildings; these items can also be reported directly to the Fairfax County Health Department, 246-2300
- Specialized housing services for language-minority residents. Bilingual staff (Spanish and English) is available in addition to the Language Line (140 languages).

Housing and Human Services Division248-5005

HUMAN SERVICES (IN FALLS CHURCH CITY)

The following human services are available to families, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, and residents in crisis through the City's Housing and Human Services Division:

- Employment counseling
- Referrals for substance abuse, mental health, and legal assistance
- Childcare information and referral

- Subsidized transportation for seniors, persons with disabilities, and those who require temporary emergency shelter
- Intake for affordable health and dental care
- Emergency assistance for individuals in crisis or transition, including services to victims of domestic violence and the homeless
- Senior services and programs

Housing and Human Services Division248-5005

HUMAN SERVICES (THROUGH FAIRFAX COUNTY)

The following services are provided for Falls Church City residents through contracts with Fairfax County agencies:

- Benefit programs, food stamps, Welfare-to-Work programs, Medicaid, and other forms of public assistance; Fairfax County Department of Family Services, 6245 Leesburg Pike, 533-5300
- Reports of child abuse or neglect; Child Protective Services Hotline, 800-552-7096
- Reports of abuse and neglect of older adults or adults with disabilities; Adult Protective Services Hotline, 324-7450
- For older adults, home-delivered meals, assistance with health insurance claims, and information on senior employment and training; Fairfax Area Agency on Aging, 324-5411
- Shopping, housekeeping, and other home-based services for income-eligible adults; Department of Family Services, 222-0880
- Health care, including testing and treatment for AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, and other communicable diseases; maternal and child health services, including immunizations; and services for older adults; Fairfax County Health Department, 6245 Leesburg Pike, 534-8343
- Mental health counseling and emergency psychiatric services; Woodburn Center for Community Mental Health, 3340 Woodburn Road, 573-0523
- Substance abuse prevention and treatment services; Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board Alcohol and Drug Services (adult and youth offices), 359-7040

Adult Protective Services (Fairfax County)324-7450

Alcohol and Drug Services (Fairfax County)359-7040

Child Protective Services (Fairfax County)800-552-7096

Coordinated Services Planning (Fairfax County)222-0880

Department of Family Services (Fairfax County)533-5300

Fairfax Area Agency on Aging324-5411

Fairfax Area Disability Services Board324-5421 (TTY 449-1186)

Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board324-7000 (TTY 802-3015)

**Housing Code Enforcement/Rodent-Insect Control
(Fairfax County Health Department)246-2300**

Mental Retardation Services (Fairfax County)324-4400

Public Health and Clinic Services
(Fairfax County Health Department)534-8343

Woodburn Center for Community Mental Health (Fairfax County)573-0523

JOB VACANCIES

City government vacancies are typically advertised on the City's Web site at www.fallschurchva.gov, in *The Washington Post* and *Falls Church News-Press* newspapers, and on the bulletin board in front of the Human Resources Division in City Hall.

Human Resources Division (City Government)248-5127

School vacancies are advertised on the Schools' Web site at www.fccps.org and in area newspapers.

Human Resources Division (Schools)248-5614

LEAF COLLECTION

Vacuum leaf collection begins on October 15 and continues through December 14. Leaves should be raked to the curb, not placed in the gutter or on sidewalks. Do not mix brush and other items with leaves. Collection of bundled brush and bagged yard waste is not provided during the leaf collection period. Residents may call for a special collection for these items. (See Refuse and Special Collections.) Leaves are picked up regularly; residents do not need to call for services.

DES-Operations Division248-5281

LEAF MULCH (DELIVERED FREE)

2007 marks the 14th year of the popular leaf mulch program. The City will begin accepting this season's mulch delivery requests on January 2, 2007. Mulch will be delivered on a first-come, first-serve basis until the supply is depleted.

Order forms and details are available at www.fallschurchva.gov, the Mary Riley Styles Public Library (120 North Virginia Avenue), the City Hall Lobby (300 Park Avenue, East Wing), and the Department of Environmental Services (300 Park Avenue, West Wing, Room 300).

Environmental Programs Specialist248-5176

Leaf Mulch Delivery Coordinator248-5281

LIBRARY

(See Mary Riley Styles Public Library.)

LICENSES

(See Permits and Licenses.)

LITTER PREVENTION

The City has a civil penalties code enforcement program to address violations of the City's Solid Waste Code. Citizens are encouraged to report incidents of littering, accumulation of debris, or dumping of solid or hazardous waste into storm drains.

Solid Waste Code Violations248-5176

MARY RILEY STYLES PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Mary Riley Styles Public Library serves all ages and interests with more than 115,000 books, periodicals, newspapers, compact discs, DVDs, audio and videotapes and discs, large print books, e-books, downloadable electronic audiobooks, and information on local history. Patrons have direct access to electronic information resources on the Library's network, including 16 public Internet and software stations. The Library catalog is online and may be accessed by terminals in the Library or by Internet connections outside the Library. The Library also provides free wireless access within the building to the Internet and the Library's catalog and databases. Patrons can search the catalog, place holds and renew items online, view databases remotely, ask a librarian reference questions via e-mail, or make comments and suggestions.

Programs and services include interlibrary loan; two book discussion groups; and regular classes on using the Library's online catalog, the Internet, e-mail, and other electronic resources. Children's programs include four weekly story hours, a summer reading program, and monthly special events. The Library staff also provides Armchair Travel programs at the Community Center on the fourth Friday of each month, programs at local preschools and schools, tours of the building for groups, and service to the homebound residents of Falls Church City. Other services include: renewal of books via the Library's Web site or telephone line, a public copier, federal and state tax forms, a drive up bookdrop to return materials, and an ongoing booksale.

The Library is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. The online catalog and electronic databases are available 24/7 at www.falls-church.lib.va.us.

Mary Riley Styles Public Library,120 North Virginia Avenue

Circulation Desk . . . . .	.248-5030
Library Director . . . . .	.248-5032
Local History Room . . . . .	.248-5140
Reference Desk . . . . .	.248-5035
Telephone Renewals . . . . .	.248-5175
Youth Services Desk . . . . .	.248-5034

MARRIAGES

The City of Falls Church does not issue marriage licenses. City residents may obtain marriage licenses from the Arlington County Circuit Court.

Arlington County Circuit Court
(1425 North Courthouse Road, Arlington)228-4372

NEWSLETTERS

The Office of Communications publishes *The Weekly FOCUS* containing the latest news about City government operations and the schools every Thursday in the *Falls Church News-Press*. The City government portion of *The Weekly FOCUS* is also published at www.fallschurchva.gov and the Schools' portion is published at www.fccps.org.

The Office also produces the *eFOCUS* newsletter highlighting City programs and services, published on the City's Web site and distributed via e-mail every other Thursday. To register visit www.fallschurchva.gov.

Office of Communications (City Government)248-5003

Office of Communications (Schools)248-5699

OCCUPANCY PERMITS

Occupancy permits ensure that businesses comply with City zoning ordinances and the Virginia Statewide Uniform Building Code. A certificate of occupancy must be received before occupying a commercial building or operating a business out of your home. Both commercial and residential occupancy permit applications, specifically for home-based businesses, are available in the Department of Environmental Services Engineering Division. Once you obtain your certificate of occupancy, you must take it to the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue to receive a business license.

Engineering and Construction Division (Occupancy Permits)248-5080

Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue (Business Licenses)248-5018

OFFICIAL RECORDS

The Clerk of the Arlington County Circuit Court maintains the official records of the City of Falls Church (real estate, deeds, records of trust, wills, and adoption papers) that were filed on or after January 1, 1988. The Clerk of the Fairfax County Circuit Court maintains documents filed before January 1, 1988.

Arlington County Circuit Court
(1425 North Courthouse Road, Arlington)228-4369

Fairfax County Circuit Court
(4110 Chain Bridge Road, Fairfax)691-7320

PAINT COLLECTION

Latex paint only (not oil-based paint) will be picked up from residents who receive City refuse service. Wet paint cannot be collected. Fill latex paint cans with sand or kitty litter to absorb paint residue, remove lids, let dry, and call for a special collection. Special pickup fees will be waived if lidless, dry, latex paint cans are the only items set out for pickup. Oil-based paint is a hazardous material and must be disposed of as described under "Household Hazardous Wastes."

DES-Operations Division, Street Maintenance248-5316

Special Collection Scheduling Line534-6509

PERMITS AND LICENSES (BY DEPARTMENT)

COMMISSIONER OF THE REVENUE248-5019

Business License

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES248-5080

Building Permit

Addendum to Building Permit

Contractor License

Drive-Through Permit

Electrical Permit

Fire and Sprinkler Permit

Fuel Gas and Oil Permit

Grading Plan Permit	
Hazardous Use Permit	
Mechanical Permit	
Occupancy Permit	
Permit to Work in the City Right-of-Way	
Plumbing Permit	
POLICE DEPARTMENT	
Dealer's License (Pawnbroker)	248-5068
Hacker Permits	248-5054 or 248-5314
Massage Therapist Permit	248-5068
Peddler's, Solicitor's, and Canvasser's Permits	248-5068
Precious Metal Dealer's Permit	248-5068
Residential Parking Permit	248-5054
TREASURER'S OFFICE	248-5046
Dog License	
ZONING DIVISION	248-5015
Sign Permit	
Special Use Permit	
Zoning Variances	
ARLINGTON COUNTY	
Marriage Licenses	228-4372

POLICE

Falls Church City has a relatively low crime rate and one of the fastest response times in the Metro area for police assistance. The City's Police Department is accredited by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. The Police Department offers the following services: patrol, investigations, canine, animal control, and the issuance of parking permits. The Police juvenile education and crime prevention program includes child fingerprinting and identification, bicycle safety education and rodeo, Crime Solvers, Community Watch, Business Watch, a School Resource Officer, and house checks.

Animal Control Officer	248-5172
Emergency (Fire and Rescue)	911
Emergency (Police Department)	241-5050 (TTY Equipped)
Falls Church Crime Solvers	866-411-TIPS (8477)
Non-Emergency (Police Dispatch)	241-5053
General Inquiries & Police Records	248-5054

PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

The City maintains, cleans, and repairs City streets and sidewalks and is responsible for traffic signs and traffic signals.

Call the DES-Operations Division to report:

- Potholes and other street repair needs
- Sidewalk, curb, and gutter repair needs
- Street light problems

The City of Falls Church has decorative light poles along main roads. These poles are grey metal with a City of Falls Church logo. Dominion Virginia Power maintains all other poles in the right of way. When reporting a Dominion street light problem, please provide the specific street address that the pole is closest to and/or a pole number.

- Traffic sign problems
- Traffic signal problems

DES-Operations Division248-5081

Dominion Virginia Power888-667-3000 (TDD 800-291-7745)

RECREATION & PARKS

Year-round recreational and leisure activities for all ages are planned and supervised by the Recreation & Parks Division. Hobby classes, athletic leagues and tournaments, special events, and shows are among the activities offered. Programs such as the Easter Egg Hunt, Memorial Day Festival and Parade, Fourth of July fireworks, Farmers Market, Summer Concerts in the Park, and Fall Festival have become a vital part of the City's culture.

Facilities include a Community Center, which includes a Teen Center and Senior Center; 12 neighborhood parks; 10 tennis courts (including lighted courts at Cavalier Trail Park, George Mason High School, and the Community Center); four full-court basketball courts; a bicycle trail; and the Cherry Hill Farmhouse and grounds. The Division also maintains City parks and open spaces.

The Falls Church Community Center is open from 8 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to midnight Friday, and 8:30 a.m. to midnight Saturday. On Sunday, the Center is open from noon to 6 p.m. (January through March) and 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. (April through December).

Recreation & Parks Division (223 Little Falls Street)248-5077

George Mason High School (7124 Leesburg Pike)248-5500

RECYCLING

The Engineering Division administers the recycling program.

Business Services: Businesses must file an annual recycling report that lists types and amounts of materials recycled. Businesses or business complexes that have more than 200 employees or generate more than 100 tons of trash annually are required to establish a recycling collection system. The City's recycling coordinator provides technical assistance to businesses in the establishment and promotion of business recycling programs. Businesses are welcome and encouraged to use the Falls Church Recycling Center.

Residential Services: Curbside collection of the following recyclable items is provided on the same day as trash collection for all residents who receive City refuse service: newspapers, magazines, catalogs, mixed paper, cardboard, telephone books, aluminum and steel food and

beverage cans, glass jars and bottles, and plastic bottles and jugs. Cans and bottles should be placed in the green recycling bins provided by the City. Paper and cardboard items should be placed in a paper bag or bundled with twine and set next to the green bin. Flattened cardboard placed in a bag or bundle may not exceed 3 feet in length. Items should be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on the day of collection. Apartment and condominium complexes are required to provide on-site recycling collection for residents.

Recycling Center: The Falls Church Recycling Center is located at 217 Gordon Road, just off West Broad Street. The center accepts newspaper, magazines, catalogs, mixed paper, cardboard, telephone books, glass jars and bottles, plastic bottles and jugs, aluminum and steel food and beverage cans, and aluminum foil and pie pans.

Environmental Programs Specialist248-5176

Recycling Hotline248-5160

Special Pickups534-6509

REFUSE AND SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

For collection purposes, the City is divided into four zones, with refuse collected Tuesdays through Fridays (See map in 2007 calendar). No collections are made on City-observed holidays. If your collection day falls on a holiday please see the 2007 Calendar, www.fallschurchva.gov, *The Weekly FOCUS* section of the *Falls Church News-Press*, or call 248-5316 for your alternate collection day.

Refuse is collected once a week from single-family residences. Residents are required to provide their own refuse containers. Containers must be watertight, cannot exceed 30 gallons, must be at least a 5-gallon capacity, and cannot weigh more than 50 pounds when filled. Containers not meeting these requirements will not be collected. Sturdy containers with lids are recommended in order to keep animals out and to prevent litter. Containers must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. the day of collection or the night before.

Residents are responsible for disposal of debris generated during tree removal, land clearing, repairs, remodeling, reconstruction, and/or renovations. City refuse and special collection services are provided only for the removal of materials resulting from normal residential use and routine home maintenance. The City will not collect debris left by contractors. When planning a large project, check with your homeowners' insurance carrier to determine if the cost of debris removal is covered by your policy. Many contractors can arrange for this service as part of the overall project cost or you can contact a private company to make alternative collection and disposal arrangements for removal of these materials.

The following materials are not collected with weekly refuse: items too large to fit in a 30 gallon container or weighing more than 50 pounds, animal waste, asbestos, tires, bricks, concrete, construction debris, dirt, drywall, floor/ceiling tiles, glass windows, metal, sheets of glass, shingles, sliding glass doors, stones, and stumps. These items can severely damage equipment. If your refuse contains even a small amount of any of these materials, collection will not occur. Call for a special collection for these materials. (See Special Collections. See also Household Hazardous Wastes.)

DES-Operations Division, Street Maintenance248-5316

Special Collection Scheduling Line534-6509

SCHOOLS

Falls Church City Public Schools enjoys a national reputation for excellence, and the division is committed to maintaining its standing as the premier small school system in the nation. The City's school division serves nearly 2,000 students, including some tuition students who live in communities outside the City of Falls Church. As enrollment grows, Falls Church City Public Schools is meeting the demand to provide excellent educational services in a secure and supportive environment.

Falls Church City Public Schools
803 West Broad Street, Suite 300
Falls Church, VA 22046
Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

.....248-5600
.....www.fccps.org

Mount Daniel Elementary School
2328 North Oak Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
Hours: 8:45 a.m. to 3:20 p.m.

.....248-5640

Thomas Jefferson Elementary School
601 South Oak Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
Hours: 8:45 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

.....248-5660

Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School
7130 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22043
Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

.....720-5700

George Mason High School
7124 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22043
Hours: 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

.....248-5500

Extended Day Care Office
601 South Oak Street
Falls Church, VA 22046

.....248-5682

FCCPS Transportation Office
7124 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, VA 22043

.....248-5537 or 248-5600

SENIOR CENTER

The Recreation & Parks Division offers a consolidated program of activities including hot lunches, recreation programs, and social activities for area seniors at the Senior Center, located in the Community Center. The program is cosponsored by the Recreation & Parks Division and the Housing and Human Services Division. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Transportation is available for City residents. A donation for transportation and lunch is requested, based on income.

Senior Center (223 Little Falls Street)248-5020

SHERIFF

The Sheriff is an independent Constitutional Officer elected by City of Falls Church citizens. The Sheriff's Office provides court security and prisoner transportation in addition to serving civil warrants and legal notices, as mandated by the Virginia Constitution and the Virginia Code. The Sheriff's Office also provides child safety seat checks and fingerprinting services for residents, by appointment only. The Sheriff's Office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Sheriff's Office248-5111

SITE PLANS AND REZONINGS

The Planning Division is responsible for processing and evaluating development plans for commercial construction, residential, and multi-family developments, including site plans, subdivision plats, and special exception and rezoning applications, most of which require public hearings before the Planning Commission.

Planning Division248-5040

SNOW REMOVAL

The City provides snow removal in the City right of way. During a snow emergency, crews work around the clock to ensure City streets are safe and passable. Snow emergency routes receive first priority for salting, sanding, and plowing. Upon completion of clearing these routes, City crews will clear all other streets. A map of the snow emergency routes is available at www.fallschurchva.gov.

When it starts to snow, move your vehicle from the street, if possible. Parking off the street protects your car from being splashed by salt spray, becoming plowed in, or being hit by passing vehicles.

Snow removal from sidewalks around homes and businesses is the responsibility of the property owner. Residents must remove snow/ice from sidewalks 12 hours after snowfall. If the snow falls at night, residents have 12 hours after sunrise to remove it. Commercial property owners must remove snow/ice from sidewalks surrounding the property 6 hours after snowfall. If the snow falls at night, businesses have 6 hours after sunrise to remove it. Snow/ice must not be placed on City streets. Failure to remove snow/ice can result in a fine by the Falls Church Police Department.

DES-Operations Division248-5013

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Special collections are available on Mondays for items not collected with regular refuse, including branches exceeding six inches in diameter, construction debris, furniture, household appliances, and unbundled brush. Requests for special collections are handled on a first come, first served basis. The City accepts only 20 requests per week. Residents are advised to take

note of the collection date provided on the special collection recording. All special materials must be placed at the curb by 7 a.m. on Monday. Residents will be billed within 30 days after the pickup at the minimum rate of \$65 for two cubic yards or less of loose materials, and/or \$25 per household appliance, with a limit of two appliances per week.

Residents are responsible for disposal of debris generated during tree removal, land clearing, repairs, remodeling, reconstruction, and/or renovations. City refuse and special collection services are provided only for the removal of materials resulting from normal residential use and routine home maintenance. The City will not collect debris left by contractors. When planning a large project, check with your homeowners' insurance carrier to determine if the cost of debris removal is covered by your policy. Many contractors can arrange for this service as part of the overall project cost or you can contact a private company to make alternative collection and disposal arrangements for removal of these materials.

DES-Operations Division, Special Collection Billing248-5081

DES-Operations Division, Street Maintenance248-5316

Special Collection Scheduling Line534-6509

SPECIAL USE PERMITS

The Zoning Division processes special use permits, zoning variances, and sign permits.

Zoning Division248-5015

STREET SWEEPING

The City provides street sweeping once a month in residential areas and twice a month in commercial areas. A schedule and map of areas to be cleaned are available at www.fallschurchva.gov. Residents are requested to move their vehicles off residential streets, if possible, between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. when street sweeping is scheduled for their area.

DES-Operations Division248-5081

TAXES

The real estate tax rate for 2006 was \$1.01 per \$100 of assessed valuation. Real estate taxes are billed by and paid to the Treasurer, and may be paid in two equal installments. The first half payment is due June 5 and the final installment is due December 5.

Personal property taxes and vehicle decal fees are due October 5. Residents receive one bill for both items. The deadline to file vehicle and business personal property returns is May 1. New residents must file within 60 days of moving to the City. Existing City residents must register all vehicles with the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue within 60 days of moving them into the City. The year 2007 tax rate is set during the spring 2007 budget process. Virginia is scheduled to provide partial personal property tax relief for qualifying vehicles for the 2007 tax year.

The Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue offers state income tax filing assistance for City residents. The state income tax filing deadline is May 1.

Personal property, real estate taxes, and some other City fees may be paid by phone with an American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa credit card. Call 888-2PAY-TAX (888-272-9829) from any touch-tone phone and enter Jurisdiction Code 1015. The fee for this service is based on the amount you charge to the credit card; you will be informed of the fee when you call. The fee for paying with a credit card is added by the collection/paying service and

goes to them. The City does not receive any of the service fees. You may also access this service online at www.officialpayments.com or you can use your Discover Card in person at the Treasurer's Office, where the fee may be less than paying via phone or Internet.

When a due date falls on a Saturday or Sunday, payments are accepted without penalty through the following Monday. Payments may be left in the after-hours drop box located in the foyer of the Police Department. Payments received by 8 a.m. are considered paid the previous day.

Tax relief is available to income-eligible seniors and individuals with disabilities through the Housing and Human Services Division.

Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue248-5065
(Vehicle Registrations and Assessments; State Income Tax Filing Assistance)

Finance Division248-5093

Housing and Human Services (Tax Relief)248-5005

Real Estate Assessor248-5022

Treasurer's Office248-5046
(Personal Property and Real Estate Tax Bills; Payments; Decal Issuance and Replacement)

TEEN CENTER

The Recreation Et Parks Division offers programs, trips, and activities for middle and high school students. The Teen Center is open daily exclusively for teens after school. The Teen Center features a ping-pong table, pool table, Play Station 2, and large screen television with surround sound. Teens also have access to the gym for youth basketball. The Teen Center offers trips on early release professional days (teacher work days), evenings, and weekends. Outings include paintball, laser tag, cosmic bowling, amusement parks, and skiing. Programs offered at the Center include Teen Council, Girl Power, Get Real About Tobacco, and Teens in Action. Monthly dances are held in addition to Midnight Madness, where teens engage in tournaments, games, and watch a movie.

Falls Church Teen Center (223 Little Falls Street)248-5137

TICKETS

Tickets for all moving violations (Uniform Virginia Traffic Summons) issued by the Police may be paid at the Clerk of the Court's Office in City Hall. Payment may be made in person by cash, check, Visa, or MasterCard. Credit card payments may also be made by telephone or online at www.courts.state.va.us.

Parking tickets may be paid by mail or in person at the Treasurer's Office in City Hall using cash, check, or Discover Card. Payments may also be made online or by phone with an American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa credit card at www.officialpayments.com or by calling 888-2PAY-TAX (888-272-9829). Enter Falls Church City Jurisdiction Code 1015.

Clerk of the Court (Moving Violations)248-5096

Treasurer's Office (Parking Tickets)248-5046

TRANSPORTATION

GEORGE clean diesel buses blaze the path in environmentally friendly transportation. The GEORGE bus system is funded by the City and operated by the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA).

GEORGE provides local transit service to and from the East and West Falls Church Metrorail stations and throughout the City for a fare of only 50 cents. GEORGE operates on weekdays from 6 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. There is no GEORGE bus service on weekends or holidays.

WMATA also services the Falls Church City area with regular public transportation. The Falls Church East and West Metrorail stations are located at the east and west ends of the City. Metro buses also run through the City. The Metro system has services designed for senior citizens and persons with disabilities. Timetables, Metro "flash passes," and discount fare cards for senior citizens are available at the Falls Church City Community Center. Metro identification cards for persons age 65 and older to obtain discounted subway and bus fares are available at the Community Center. Lift-equipped buses, discount fare cards, large print maps, and time schedules make traveling easier for many individuals. MetroAccess provides paratransit services for individuals with disabilities who cannot use regular Metro transit. MetroAccess provides curb-to-curb service for eligible riders.

The City's Fare Wheels program provides subsidized transportation for income-eligible seniors and persons with disabilities.

Community Center (223 Little Falls Street)	.....248-5077
Fare Wheels (Housing and Human Services Division)	.....248-5005
GEORGE	.....202-637-7000 (WMATA)
	.....248-5003 (Office of Communications)
GEORGE Schedules & Information	.....www.fallschurchva.gov
MetroAccess	.....800-523-7009 (TTY 301-588-7535)
Metrorail & Bus Service	.....202-637-7000 (TTY 202-638-3780)
Web Site	.....www.wmata.com

TREASURER

The City Treasurer is an independent Constitutional Officer who answers directly to the voters of Falls Church City. The Office is partially funded by the Commonwealth of Virginia for the performance of state responsibilities, such as the collection and transmission of state income taxes and other state funds.

Responsibilities of the Treasurer include the collection, safeguarding, and disbursement of all City funds. The Treasurer works closely with the Commissioner of the Revenue, the Real Estate Assessor, and the Director of Finance to help ensure the best possible service to residents.

Treasurer's Office248-5046
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TREES

The City's Urban Forestry-Arborist Division of the Department of Development Services is responsible for maintaining trees and other vegetation growing on City-owned property. This includes trees growing on public rights-of-way, in parks, and at the schools. Trees on private property are the responsibility of the homeowner, who must use a licensed tree care company. This ensures that the company has qualifications such as workers' compensation and liability insurance. Contractors must abide by local ordinance and any brush and debris from their work must be taken with them and cannot be left curbside.

To ensure that the City has a healthy and sustainable tree canopy, the Urban Forestry-Arborist Division replants trees removed during the spring and fall planting season. The volunteer Neighborhood Tree Program (NTP) works in cooperation with the City to plant trees in vacant locations on public rights-of-way and helps educate the community on the benefits of trees in our urban area.

To request work on City trees, plantings, or to attain a list of licensed tree care companies, e-mail arborist@fallschurchva.gov.

City Arborist (Regarding Commercial or Public Land Development)248-5183

Senior Urban Forester (Regarding Residential Development)248-5016

VEHICLE REGISTRATION AND DECALS

A Falls Church City decal is required for all automobiles, motorcycles, and trucks garaged (parked) in the City. Residents moving into the City, or residents with a newly acquired vehicle, must purchase decals within 60 days. A vehicle registration form can be downloaded at www.fallschurchva.gov. Residents can fax the completed form and a copy of their vehicle's DMV registration card to 248-5212 and the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue will register the vehicle and issue a temporary decal.

The Treasurer's Office will issue a bill for personal property (vehicle) taxes owed (depending on the time of year the vehicle is registered) and a decal fee. If you have already paid for a current year decal in the state of Virginia, you will not have to pay for another current year decal in Falls Church City. Please note this on your vehicle registration form. Once your bill has been paid, the Treasurer's Office will mail you a permanent decal to place on the windshield of your vehicle, to the right of the Virginia State Inspection sticker. If you move from the Falls Church City, provide the Commissioner's Office with written proof that you have registered your vehicle in another locality in order to stop taxation on your vehicle(s) by the City. The Treasurer's Office can then issue an adjusted, final personal property bill.

The decal fee is \$25 a year for most vehicles. Separate fee schedules apply to buses, motorcycles, taxis, and trucks. The renewal deadline for the decal is October 5; however, the decal does not expire until November 15. This allows time for decals to be mailed to accounts paid on or near the due date.

After November 15, Falls Church City vehicles without valid decals may be ticketed in Falls Church City and other participating Northern Virginia jurisdictions. Contact the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue for assistance removing and affixing decals.

Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue
(Vehicle Registrations & Assessments)248-5065
.248-5212 (Fax)

Treasurer's Office
(Personal Property Tax Bills, Bill Payments, Decal Issuance & Replacement)
.248-5046
.248-5048 (Fax)

VIRGINIA STATE INCOME TAX RETURNS

Virginia state income tax returns must be filed annually with the Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue no later than May 1. The Virginia State Locality Code number for Falls Church City taxpayers to use on their tax forms is 610. You must use this code when filing electronically with tax preparation software or when completing a state income tax form by hand on paper. The

Locality Code number for all Fairfax County taxpayers to use is 059, including those with a Falls Church postal address. Please call if you are unsure about which Locality Code to use. Qualifying Falls Church City returns that are due a tax refund are entered directly into the Virginia state tax computer system for prompt refunds. Refunds can be deposited directly into your bank account. The Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue provides assistance for the preparation of Virginia state tax returns but not federal returns. Virginia state income tax returns, tax due payments, and estimated taxes can only be processed for City of Falls Church residents.

Office of the Commissioner of the Revenue248-5065

VOTER REGISTRATION

The Voter Registration Office provides voter registration by mail and at City Hall. Applications to register by mail may be picked up at City Hall or at the Mary Riley Styles Public Library. Applications may also be requested by calling the Voter Registration Office. The Voter Registration Office provides absentee voting for all elections. Citizens may vote either by mail or in person at City Hall.

Polling places are accessible to persons with disabilities. City polling places are:

Ward I	Thomas Jefferson Elementary (601 South Oak Street)
Ward II	Oakwood Apartments (501 Roosevelt Boulevard)
Ward III	Scout House (128 South Spring Street)
Ward IV	Falls Church Community Center (223 Little Falls Street)
Ward V	American Legion Post 130 (400 North Oak Street)

Voter Registration248-5085

WATER/SANITARY SEWER

The Department of Environmental Services Public Utilities Division is responsible for providing safe drinking water and fire protection to approximately 120,000 people (92 percent of customers live outside the City). The Division also provides sanitary sewer service to approximately 10,000 people, with the majority (90 percent) residing in the City.

Operations & Maintenance248-5013

Customer Service (Water/Sanitary Sewer Billing)248-5071

Water/Sewer Leaks, Breaks and Emergencies (24/7)248-5044

WATERSHED PROTECTION

Anything entering storm drains goes directly into local streams. Citizens are encouraged to report oil spills or other liquid spills in a waterway. Call 911 or the local fire department (558-2222).

WEB SITE

The City's Web site (www.fallschurchva.gov) provides a host of information about services provided to City residents and businesses. A newly designed site featuring improved navigation, accessibility, and online registrations/payments is scheduled to launch in early 2007.

The online City Directory offers easy access to all City phone numbers, division Web addresses, and e-mail addresses. Web visitors can view a wealth of information about meeting agendas and minutes, employment opportunities, events, newsletters and much more at www.fallschurchva.gov.

The School Division's Web site (www.fccps.org) provides general information about the Falls Church City Public Schools and provides links to each of the City's four school Web sites. In addition to a wealth of school, employment and contact information, Web visitors can also view School Board meeting agendas and materials and meeting minutes online. Links to school affiliated organizations such as the PTA, the band boosters, the athletic boosters and the Falls Church Education Foundation are also included on the division Web site.

Office of Communications (www.fallschurchva.gov)248-5003

Office of Communications (www.fccps.org)248-5699

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Yard waste collection is provided on Mondays (except holidays) from January 8 to October 29 to residents who receive City refuse service. Leaf collection occurs during the break. Acceptable materials include grass, ivy, leaves, shrubs, small branches, twigs, and yard trimmings. Materials must be placed in 30-gallon paper yard debris bags, available at local stores. Collection stickers (50 cents per bag) must be affixed to bags. Stickers are available at Brown's Hardware, City Hall (Engineering Division and Treasurer's Office), Giant, and Julie's Hallmark.

Engineering and Construction Division248-5080

DES-Operations Division, Street Maintenance248-5316

Recycling248-5176

Treasurer's Office248-5046

ZONING

The Zoning Division administers and enforces the City's zoning and flood plain ordinances, and assists the public regarding zoning regulations and potential land development in Falls Church City. The Division works with the Board of Zoning Appeals on special use permits and variances, and with the Architectural Advisory Board to review commercial signs and the landscaping and architectural details of new construction.

Zoning Division248-5015

Are you prepared? Start the New Year right,
and refresh your family's emergency plan.
Visit www.ready.gov for more information.



GET A KIT

- ☐ Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- ☐ Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- ☐ Battery-powered or hand crank radio and extra batteries
- ☐ Flashlight and extra batteries
- ☐ First aid kit
- ☐ Whistle to signal for help
- ☐ Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape to shelter-in-place
- ☐ Moist towelettes, garbage bags, and plastic ties for personal sanitation
- ☐ Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- ☐ Can opener for food (if kit contains canned food)
- ☐ Local maps
- ☐ Additional Items (medications, cash, pet food, etc.)

MAKE A PLAN

Your family may not be together when disaster strikes, so plan how you will contact one another and review what you will do in different situations.

Fill out the following information for each family member.

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Important Medical Information: _____

Where to go in an emergency. Write down where your family spends the most time: work, school, and other places you frequent. Schools, daycare providers, workplaces, and apartment buildings should all have site-specific emergency plans.

Home	Work
Address:_____	Address:_____
Phone Number:_____	Phone Number:_____
Neighborhood Meeting Place:_____	Evacuation Location:_____
Regional Meeting Place:_____	

School	Work
Address:_____	Address:_____
Phone Number:_____	Phone Number:_____
Evacuation Location:_____	Evacuation Location:_____

School	Other Place You Frequent:
Address:_____	Address:_____
Phone Number:_____	Phone Number:_____
Evacuation Location:_____	Evacuation Location:_____

School	Other Place You Frequent:
Address:_____	Address:_____
Phone Number:_____	Phone Number:_____
Evacuation Location:_____	Evacuation Location:_____

Important Information	Name	Phone #	Policy #
Doctor(s):			
Other:			
Pharmacist:			
Medical Insurance:			
Homeowners/Rental Insurance:			
Veterinarian/Kennel (For Pets):			

Dial 911 for emergencies. Police Non-Emergency Number: 241-5053.

BE INFORMED

The City provides several outlets for official information in the event of an emergency and inclement weather.

Web Sites

www.fallschurchova.gov

www.fccps.org

Electronic Emergency Alerts (Register Online)

alert.fallschurchova.gov

Emergency Information Line (Citizens)

248-5200

Emergency Information Line (Employees)

248-5198

Emergency Information Line & Special Announcements (Schools)

248-5500, ext. 3113

Emergency Radio Broadcast Station

1680 AM

FCC-TV

Channels 2 and 12

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300 Park Avenue • Falls Church VA 22046 • 703-248-5001 (TTY 711)

www.fallschurchva.gov

Policy of Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Disability

The City of Falls Church does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its employment practices or in the admission to, access to, or operations of its services, programs, or activities. Letha Flippin, 300 Park Avenue, Falls Church, Virginia 22046, has been designated to coordinate compliance with the ADA non-discrimination requirement.